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merit of the work, we trust that it will be continued, and that it may meet with the patronage which it deserves.

15. — *Sketches of Switzerland.* By AN AMERICAN. In Two Volumes. Philadelphia; Carey, Lea, & Blanchard. 1836.

THESE two volumes contain many passages of fine description. Indeed, Mr. Cooper's most marked talent is his power of setting before his readers, with admirable distinctness, striking views of natural scenery. In this work he records the impressions left on his mind by the mountain scenery of Switzerland, during a more protracted visit than is common for American travellers. Some agreeable notices of the manners and character of the people are interspersed; but the main interest of the work consists in the vivid pictures of Swiss nature, which fill the greater part of its pages.

Mr. Cooper's political mania breaks out in some places, to mar the beauty of the work. It is a profanation of the noble scenery to which the book is devoted, to intrude the passions of the politician, among the feelings such scenery is calculated to excite. Mr. Cooper has condescended to the petty work of repeating the ten times refuted political scandal against one of the great parties into which our countrymen were divided at the earliest period of our national existence. To support this foolish prating, he mystifies his readers with an idle story told him by some nameless European, of some nameless American, who was a distinguished member of the Federal party, but disliked the republican institutions of his own country, because he could not decorate his person with certain gewgaws which two crowned heads of Europe had bestowed on him. It is a curious instance of what profound nonsense even a man of genius will sometimes utter, with all the solemnity of apparent belief.

16. — *Terrible Tractation and other Poems.* By CHRISTOPHER CAUSTIC, M. D., &c. Third Edition. Boston; Russell, Shattuck, & Co. New York; J. H. Weeks.

THE re-appearance of this poem, after an interval that covers half the age of man, is almost as much like a resurrection, as was the advent of Lafayette among those who had but known him in history. We are old enough to remember, when the argument for the existence of an American literature was

held incomplete, without a reference to the "Terrible Tractoration." "With *it* were the dreams of our earliest love." It does our heart good to learn from the new matter in this edition, that the worthy author, in his important walks of more recent and homely devotion to the public welfare, has still kept the Muse by his side. To judge by the vivacity of her inspirations, as this volume records them, doubtless "much has he owed her strains on life's long way."

17. — *Discourse before the Historical Society of Louisiana.*

By HENRY A. BULLARD. President of the Society.
New Orleans; Benjamin A. Levy. Svo. pp. 30.

THIS address of Judge Bullard should have a different sort of comment, from what the advanced state of our Number permits. It is full of authentic and curious information respecting the early history of Louisiana; and the taste, force, and sprightliness of the composition, and the spirit of enthusiasm for letters which it breathes, would lead one, who knew no better, to suppose himself reading the production of a scholar by apprenticeship, by trade, and by exclusion of all other things, and not of one whose early life was passed in stirring scenes of the most romantic adventure, and whose matured powers, in a place of high responsibility and perpetually urgent claims, have been bent to the tasks of one of the austere sciences. We congratulate the Historical Society of Louisiana on its choice of a presiding officer, and we shall not fail to watch its labors with a lively interest, corresponding to the importance of the field it occupies.

18. — *Visit to Constantinople and Athens.* By the Reverend
W. COLTON, U. S. N., Author of "Ship and Shore."
New York; Leavitt, Lord, & Co. 1836.

THE author of this book has shown rather uncommon power of observation, and considerable skill in writing. The volume records the incidents of a visit to Athens and other parts of Greece, Constantinople, the Troad, &c., in an American ship of war. Many of the descriptive passages are executed with feeling, taste, and power. Sometimes the language is highly elegant and even poetical. But the beauty of these passages is strangely marred by, here and there, an awkward or unauthorized construction, or an inelegant use of a single word. The author